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less than \$25.00 per pay period, or \$50.00 per month, will be accepted only in the most unusual circumstances.

[53 FR 5, Jan. 4, 1988, and 53 FR 10527, Apr. 1, 1988]

§ 400.139 Nonwaiver of rights.

So long as there are no statutory or contractual provisions to the contrary, no employee payment (or all or portion of a debt) collected under these regulations will be interpreted as a waiver of any rights that the employee may have under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 5514.

[53 FR 5, Jan. 4, 1988, and 53 FR 10527, Apr. 1, 1988]

§ 400.140 Refunds.

FCIC will promptly refund to the appropriate individual amounts offset under these regulations when:

(a) A debt is waived or otherwise found not owing to the United States (unless expressly prohibited by statute or regulation); or

(b) FCIC is directed by an administrative or judicial order to refund amounts deducted from an employee's current pay.

[53 FR 5, Jan. 4, 1988, and 53 FR 10527, Apr. 1, 1988]

§ 400.141 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Tax Refund Offset.

Under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3720A, the (IRS) may be requested to collect a legally enforceable debt owing to any Federal agency by offset against a taxpayer's Federal income tax refund. This section provides policies and procedures to implement IRS tax refund offsets in accordance with the provisions set forth in §301.6402-6T of 26 CFR chapter I.

(a) Any person who is indebted to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) is entitled to the extent of FCIC's administrative due process including review and appeal of the debt under the Appeal Regulations in 7 CFR part 400, subpart J.

(b) If, after such administrative due process is exhausted, the debt is still outstanding with no other means of collection, the debtor will be notified by letter of FCIC's intention to refer such debt to the IRS for collection by tax refund offset. The notification let-

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ter will inform the debtor that their account is delinquent and that IRS will be requested to reduce the amount of any tax refund check due the debtor by the amount of the delinquency. The debtor will be given 60 days in which to write to the Manager, FCIC, providing written evidence that the debt is not legally enforceable. FCIC will refer the debt to IRS for collection by offset after the 60-day period if no response is received from the debtor. Decisions made under the provisions of this section are not appealable under the provisions of the Appeal Regulations in 7 CFR part 400, subpart J.

(c) If the debtor has requested a review, and has provided written evidence that the debt is not legally enforceable, the Manager, with the assistance of the Office of General Counsel, USDA, will review the debtor's reasons for believing that the debt is not legally enforceable. The debtor will then be notified of the results of the review.

(d) FCIC will notify IRS of those accounts against which offset action is to be taken.

(e) If, during the period of review, the debtor pays the debt in full, the collection of the debt by tax refund offset procedure will be halted. Changes in debtor status that eliminate the debtor from IRS offset will be reported to IRS by FCIC and the debtor's refund will not be offset.

(f) Amounts offset for delinquent debt which are later found to be not owed to FCIC, will be promptly refunded.

(g) Debtors will not be subject to IRS offset for any of the following reasons:

(1) Debtors who are discharged in bankruptcy or who are under the jurisdiction of a bankruptcy court;

(2) Debtors who are employed by the Federal Government;

(3) Debtors whose cases are in suspense because of actions pending by or taken by FCIC;

(4) Debtors who have not provided a Social Security Number (SSN) and no SSN can be obtained;

(5) Debtors whose indebtedness is less than \$25;

(6) Debtors whose account is more than ten (10) years delinquent; except in the case of a judgment debt; or

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(7) Debtors whose account has not been first reported to a consumer credit reporting agency.

[53 FR 5, Jan. 4, 1988, and 53 FR 10527, Apr. 1, 1988]

§ 400.142 Past-due legally enforceable debt eligible for refund offset.

For purposes of this section, a past-due, legally enforceable debt which may be referred by FCIC to IRS for offset is a debt which:

(a) Except in the case of a judgement debt, has been delinquent for at least three months but has not been delinquent for more than 10 years at the time the offset is made;

(b) Cannot be currently collected pursuant to the salary offset provisions of 5 U.S.C. 5514(a)(1);

(c) Is ineligible for administrative offset under 31 U.S.C. 3716(a) by reason of 31 U.S.C. 3716(c)(2), or cannot be collected by administrative offset under 31 U.S.C. 3716(a) by the referring agency against amounts payable to the debtor by the referring agency;

(d) With respect to which the agency has given the employee at least 60 days to present evidence that all or part of the debt is not past-due or legally enforceable, has considered evidence presented by such employee, and has determined that an amount of such debt is past-due and legally enforceable;

(e) Has been disclosed by FCIC to a consumer reporting agency as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 3711(f), in the case of a debt to be referred to IRS after June 30, 1986;

(f) With respect to which that FCIC has notified, or has made a reasonable attempt to notify, the employee that:

(1) The debt is past due; and

(2) Unless repaid within 60 days thereafter, will be referred to IRS for offset against any overpayment of tax; and

(3) Which is at least \$25.00.

[53 FR 6, Jan. 4, 1988, and 53 FR 10527, Apr. 1, 1988]

Subpart L—Reinsurance Agreement—Standards for Approval; Regulations for the 1997 and Subsequent Reinsurance Years

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 1506(l), 1506(p).

SOURCE: 52 FR 17543, May 11, 1987, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 53 FR 3, Jan. 4, 1988, and further redesignated at 53 FR 10527, Apr. 1, 1988.

§ 400.161 Definitions.

In addition to the terms defined in the Standard Reinsurance Agreement, the following terms as used in this rule are defined to mean:

(a) *Annual Statutory Financial Statement* means the annual financial statement of an insurer prepared in accordance with Statutory Accounting Principles and submitted to the state insurance department if required by any state in which the insurer is licensed.

(b) *Company* means the company reinsured by FCIC or apply to FCIC for a Standard Reinsurance Agreement.

(c) *Corporation* means the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

(d) *FCIC* means the Federal crop Insurance Corporation.

(e) *Financial statement* means any documentation submitted by a company as required by this subpart.

(f) *Guaranty fund assessments* means the state administered program utilized by some state insurance regulatory agencies to obtain funds with which to discharge unfunded obligations of insurance companies licensed to do business in that state.

(g) *Insurer* means an insurance company that is licensed or admitted as such in any State, Territory, or Possession of the United States.

(h) *MPUL* means the maximum possible underwriting loss that an insurer can sustain on policies it intends to reinsure with FCIC, after adjusting for the effect of any reinsurance agreement with FCIC, and any outside reinsurance agreements, as evaluated by FCIC.

(i) *Obligations* mean crop or indemnity for crop loss on policies reinsured under the Standard Reinsurance Agreement.